

March 2006

### **THE DIVERSITY OF MUSLIMS IN THE UNITED STATES**

The U.S. Institute of Peace, February 2006

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr159.pdf>

With recent attention on European Muslims in France, Belgium, Germany as well as with the London bombings of July 7, 2005, there is a focus on how Western Muslims integrate, assimilate, and contribute to society. This Special Report examines how American Muslims have expressed themselves as Americans in a post 9/11 world of suspicion. In doing so, this study analyzes different, major American Muslim organizations' activities and their distinguishing views on violence, terrorism, and conflict resolution. The objective of this Special Report is to identify key trends in American Muslim organizations; their major religious and secular activities, as well as understand the ways in which American Muslims are carving out a distinct American identity as citizens. This report demonstrates that unlike Muslims in Europe, American Muslims do not feel marginalized, isolated, or locked out of political participation. Social-economic mobility is far more obtainable. For the most part, American Muslims have successfully created professional, cultural, human rights, civil rights, educational, and political organizations as an expression of feeling included in the larger spectrum of American society and liberal democracy. The analysis presented here illustrates that American Muslims' contribution to the United States is a product not only of their own diversity, but also of the diversity of views in understanding themselves as Americans.

### **DIVERSITY SPREADS OUT: METROPOLITAN SHIFTS IN HISPANIC, ASIAN, AND BLACK POPULATIONS SINCE 2000**

The Brookings Institution, March 2006

[http://www.brook.edu/metro/pubs/20060307\\_frey.htm](http://www.brook.edu/metro/pubs/20060307_frey.htm)

Minorities contributed the majority of population gains in the nation's fastest-growing metropolitan areas and central metropolitan counties from 2000 to 2004. Minority groups remain the demographic lifeblood of inner counties in older metropolitan areas, but they are increasingly fueling growth in fast-growing outer suburban and "exurban" counties as well.

### **VOTING AND REGISTRATION IN THE ELECTION OF 2004**

U.S. Bureau of the Census, March 2006

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2006pubs/p20-556.pdf>

This report examines the levels of voting and registration in the November 2004 presidential election, the characteristics of citizens who reported that they were registered for or voted in the election, and the reasons why registered voters did not vote.